NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

The following lecture recently delivered by Professor Johnson, before a Convention of School Teachers in Scotland, we copy from the British American Cultivator. The aim of the learned professor was to show the necessity which exists for a knowledge of Chemistry in its applications to the purposes of agriculture, and thus to cause it to be taught in schools.

In this lecture, Professor Johnson treats—1st, of the *formation of the earth*—2d, of the *constituent elements of plants*—3d, of *soils*—4th, of *animal substances*, and the *constitution of the living animal, the nature and offices of the food it consumes*—and shows the relative proportions of organic and inorganic matters and salts of which the soil, as well as vegetables and animals consist, the sources whence they derive their several supplies, and how essential it is that the culturist and stock-feeder should be possessed of a knowledge of Chemistry, in order that they may go to work advisedly in their respective callings, and thereby be enabled to attain their objects by the most economical processes.

As it would be arrogant in us to commend subjects so intimately connected with the business of life, when treated by a master spirit like Professor Johnson, we will only say that every one should read the subjoined.—*Ed. Amer. Far.*

"Gentlemen, there was a time when this hill on which we now stand, was nothing but a naked rock of lava. That old lava gradually decayed, as modern lavas do, and crumbled down and formed loose matter on the surface, in which seeds of plants grew, died, and left their remains. Thus by degrees the soil accumulated to such as you now see on the surface of this rock, on which plants now grow. Such is the history of nearly all the soils on the surface of the globe.

Suppose you take a portion of any one soil, and put it upon the end of a piece of metal, such as I am doing just now, and in any way expose it to the action of the fire, you will see that part of the soil will grow blacker at the edges; by and by that blackness will disappear, and the soil will assume a color more or less dark, according to the nature of the substances of that which remains consists. If you take this portion of the soil before it is heated, and weigh it, you will find that after it is exposed to the fire, it is not so heavy as before. That portion of the soil which has burned away, consists of the remains of those vegetables of which I have spoken; of those animals that have died and been deposited in the soil; and of the manures which have been applied by the farmer.

Thus, vegetable matter forms what is called the organic, and the other portion of the soil, the inorganic matter.

The quantity of organic matter varies very much—in some soils it exists to the extent of 2 per cent. and in peaty soils, sometimes as high as 70 per cent. If you take a piece of vegetable matter and burn it, such as this wood, you will find, here, also, that a large portion will not burn away, but remains, forming wood-ash. It is the same, then, with regard to the plant, as to the soil—a part burns away, and a part remains. Different plants have different proportions of inorganic matter—thus, meadow hay leaves nine or ten per cent. of incombustible matter. Again, as to the animal substances: take a piece of muscle, dry, and burn it, and you shall find that the greater part of it will burn away, which is the organic matter; the remainder being, as in the soil and in the plant, the inorganic and incombustible matter. Now, one hundred pounds of fresh muscle contains phosphate of lime and other saline substances, to the extent of one per cent. of incombustible matter.

Thus the three different substances, soil, vegetable, and animal matter, consist of organic and inorganic matter; but there is this difference, that in the soil there is a larger portion of inorganic matter than there is in plants and animals—in the latter, the greater portion burns away.

By looking at the table, you will observe that the inorganic matter consists of different substances, such as silica, which forms a very large proportion of flint; alumina, a principal ingredient of pipe-clay; oxide of iron, which is the rust of iron; potash, of which the potash you get from the shops may serve to give you an idea; chlorine, which is a kind of air; and then there is manganese, phosphoric acid, and carbonic acid. These substances are found in all soils, but not in equal proportions. You will see in the table before you the details of the constitution of a soil which would yield good crops for perhaps a hundred years. Were you to possess such a soil as that—and such soils are to be got in the virgin land at the Cape of Good Hope, on the banks of the Ganges, and the Mississippi,—you would find that it would contain a notable quantity of all these different substances of a soil capable of yielding good crops, but which would require to be regularly manured.

You will observe that opposite three of the substances the word 'trace' is put, which means, that though the substance was not absent altogether, yet it existed in so small a quantity that it could not be weighed. In the rich virgin soil stated first, you observe that there is of lime 59 per cent., while in the second column there is only nineteen. Of phosphoric acid there is four in the one, and two in the other. In the third column of the table is the constitution of a soil so barren, that though manured, it could not produce a good crop. You see that their is a great many gaps in the list; in short, there are only five substances which exist in anything like quantity. So much for the substances which exist in all good soils; and you may be sure that if any soil does not produce a good crop, some one or other of these substances are wanting.

The question arises—how do soils come to have such different compositions as these? I stated to you how the crumbling down of rocks formed the soil, along with the accumulation of organic matter in it, and if I had time, I would have directed you to a geological map, and shown that in every country the rock on which the soil rests, is different; and if it be true that the crumbling down of rocks forms the soil, you learn at once how soils must differ very much in their composition. In felspar soils, of which rocks principally consist, you will observe only silica, alumina, and a few others. A soil formed from this, must therefore contain a large quantity of these substances, while it would be deficient in many others.

As soils differ in this, we are led to this practical question—how can we make *this* soil to be like *that* soil, or how can a bad soil be made equal to a good one? The answer is simply, that you must supply those substances that are wanting in the soil: you must supply as much potash or lime as is wanting in the third or poor soil—and as is wanting in the second, to make up all the constituent elements which exist in the first or rich virgin soil, and which are necessary to enable the soil to produce a good and profitable crop. This shows you the benefit of an analysis of the soil, by which a farmer is enabled to decide what the soil requires, and proceed accordingly.

I shall next speak of vegetable substances; and first, as to the inorganic part of them. If you take the ash that remains behind, from a plant which has been exposed to the fire, and analyze it in the same way as with the soil, you will come to this result—that the inorganic part of the plant contains precisely the same substances as the inorganic portion of the soil.

In reference to the ash of vegetables, 100 lbs. of wood leave behind not more than a half pound of ash. Perhaps you may be inclined to ask why, seeing that out of 100 lbs. one half pound only is ash, can that half pound be necessary for the existence of the plant, or is it rather accidental, and in no respect making any difference to the plant? No such thing, gentlemen. That half pound of ash is just as much an essential part of the plant, as the 99 1-2 lbs. which burned away. The plant could not live, or at least fulfil the purposes of its nature, without this small quantity of inorganic matter.

Let us inquire, whence do plants derive the organic and inorganic parts of which they consist? They derive the organic partly from the air; the inorganic solely from the soil. In the air float certain proportions of all those substances which enter into the organic part of the plant. Now, the different kinds of plants in the soil will materially affect its constitution, and have a remarkable influence upon that constitution. Suppose I grow lucerne upon the very fertile soil detailed in the table: as lucerne requires a large quantity of lime and phosphoric acid, it would rob the soil of a large proportion of these, and therefore it would not continue to grow the same crop with the luxuriance that characterized it at first, because it could not supply, in the same abundance, those particular substances upon which lucerne lives more than upon any other.

Take the ash of the different kinds of grain, and analyze it, and you will find that each in its own way affects the soil. Wheat, oats and rye require a large quantity of phosphoric acid: so if you grow wheat a long time in the same soil, it will draw out this phosphoric acid among other things, and thereby reduce its quantity. This is what is meant by *exhausting* the soil. If rye-grass is the plant

used, it will exhaust the soil generally, because it does not take away a great portion of any one of the substances. In the same way, different crops make the soil poor; but if I take the same crop say fifteen or twenty times—a practice which, as is well known to the most of you, existed not many years ago—the soil would by that time produce no crop at all.

The land then may be exhausted in two ways—generally of all the substances, and especially, of particular substances; and from this circumstance we are enabled again to make two or three practical deductions.

In the first place, insomuch as the soil contains a limited quantity of these substances, and inasmuch as different crops carry off different portions, you at once see why it is judicious to have a rotation of crops. A soil may produce one crop abundantly when it cannot produce another.

Let us next inquire why land is manured. It is obvious that manure is applied to restore those things which are wholly or comparatively wanting. Chemistry tells practical men how to renew their exhausted soil. Suppose that fifteen crops of oats have been taken off a piece of land; then it will have lost a large quantity of lime, phosphoric acid, and potash, and in order to restore it, you must supply the soil with these ingredients of which it has been robbed. Manure from cattle being composed of the remains of vegetables taken off the land, and containing all these things of which plants consist, the farmer, generally speaking, is enabled by its application, to retain the fertility of the soil. But then, observe ,you, he adds all the things which are required for a fertile soil, and may apply too much of one substance, and not enough of another, which the land requires for a particular crop. Now, guided by chemical knowledge, he would be able, by other means, to provide for his land. If the farmer knows chemistry, he will, at far less cost, and far more effectually, secure good crops.

I come next to the organic part of the plant. You observe, when I take this flour dough, and wash it in water, it diminishes in bulk, and the water becomes milky. The portion that remains, for it will not all wash away, is a sticky substance, and this is called gluten. If the water is allowed to stand a short time, the white will fall to the bottom and form starch. The flour is thus easily separated into two parts, the starch and gluten. Wheat contains gluten to the extent of from ten to thirteen per cent.; meadow hay, forty per cent. of starch. Of fat, (oil) wheat contains from two to four per cent.; oats, six per cent.; Indian corn, nine per cent., and meadow hay, from two to five per cent. Thus the organic part of vegetable matter contains gluten, starch and fat.

I shall now make a few observations on the composition of animals. Of what does the ash of animals consist? The body is composed of various parts—of muscles, fat, and bone, and other elements which I need not detail. If we examine the composition of the muscle, we shall find that it contains 2 1-2 per cent. of phosphate of lime, and a third per cent. of other saline matters. In bones you do not have all the substances which exist in wheat, but you have some of them, such as lime, magnesia, &c. In ten gallons of milk, there is three-fourths of a pound of saline matter; so that if you take the composition of the muscle, of the bone, and of the milk together, you will find that animals contain the different substances which are to be found in the soil. Thus it is we learn the intimate connection between the composition of the inorganic matter of the plant, of the animal, and of the soil.

But where does the animal get this inorganic matter? From the plants on which it feeds. In bone, six-tenths of the whole consists of phosphate of lime and magnesia. Now an animal could not support itself or walk about without some bone or firm substance to uphold it. It feeds upon herbage, to obtain the different substances of which it is made up. But if the plant had no soda or magnesia, the bone could not be built up, no more than the walls of this house could be made without lime, stone and other substances. It is necessary then, that the plant should have all these substances, in order to supply them to the animal. And where does the plant get these substances? It gets them from the soil; nor can a plant live without them. And here we have a beautiful example of the provisions of nature, for a plant cannot grow, unless it can acquire those elements—or, indeed, if it did live, it might deck the earth, but it would be useless for food for animals, which is the great purpose of its creation.

Some animals lay on fat very abundantly, and some, like myself, lay it on very sparingly. If you have an animal inclined to fatten, and you *wish* to fatten him, feed him with Indian corn.

There is an important difference between the composition of the vegetable and that of the animal. In the former there is gluten, starch, and fat only. The lungs of the animal are a sort of carbonic acid manufacturers. The starch which the animal throws off to the air, the plant sucks in: in this the leaves are continually employed—perpetually sucking in, with their thousand little mouths, the carbonic acid. The lungs of animals might suck in the same as plants do, but such is not the order of nature, and it falls to the plant to supply the deficiency.

You all know that every part of our body is continually undergoing a change, and that a certain quantity of gluten must be eaten every day to supply it; it is the same with young animals; they require an extra supply of the elements of muscle and bone.

Animals reject in dung and urine a great many substances, and as the plants contain substances which are soluble in water, it is of great consequence to take care of the liquid excresences, and to mix it with the solid, so that the whole the animal ate may be preserved, which being applied to the soil, it is provided with the same substances almost forever. If you allow the liquid to run into the river, or pond, you deprive the land of what the plant gets from the soil, and which the animal gets from the plant. When the animal dies, all those things which it got is returned to the soil, and thus the same revolution goes on from the soil to the plant, and from the plant to the animals.

These are some of the points, gentlemen, by relating which I hoped to interest you, and which demonstrate the overruling presence of One mind, directing practical operations to the same end. If there was not the same Spirit pervading the nature of the soil, the plants, and the animals, there would be some confusion; but there is manifested the presence of One mind and of one principle, directing the whole cycle of animal and vegetable life, as there is to be seen in all the cycles and motions of the planetary bodies.

Good nature is more to be prized than the greatest beauty or the keenest wit.

EXTRACTS FROM REV. MR. STONE'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE ESSEX AG. SOC.

Education of Farmers' Sons.

"I do not suppose that every farmer's son will make, or that it is necessary that every farmer's son should become, a farmer. There are diversities of operations that require a division of labor. But I would have every farmer educate that son that discovers the best natural taste for farming, for a farmer. That is, the conversation and counsel of the fireside, the instructions of the field, and the studies of the school, should all be directed with reference to qualifying him for the practical duties of the farm. Why not? Youth are educated for lawyers, physicians, and merchants. Why not educate them for *farmers*, when the influences of education do so much to develop or create attachments to particular pursuits? If, as was suggested in the able address before you last year, the elements of agriculture were made a branch of study in our common schools, the best results might follow. * * * * * *

It is Mind that gives man his supremacy. It is developed intellect that lifts one man above another, and procures for the individual unblest with this world's riches, respect, honor, influence, and consideration, that wealth can never purchase. I would have the humblest farmer's boy, by education, raised to a level with his more favored fellow. I would give him a fair start in the world—a fair chance to be *felt*, through the influence of his talents, in the assembly of his townsmen, or in the halls of legislation. I would have every farmer's son know enough of chemistry to analyze soils and prepare composts—enough of geology to understand the origin and nature of soils—enough of botany to understand the structure of plants, and to classify them—enough of natural history to know the habits of the animal, feathered and insect tribes—and enough of physiology to recognize the laws of health and the secret of prolonging life. In a word, I would have him a perfect master of his noble calling, so far as depends on education. And it is for this reason that I desire to see our Common Schools, where the majority of our children, and nearly every farmer's son, receive their entire education, fostered with increasing care, and made equal to the highest intellectual cultivation that stops short of the University. I insist upon this high standard, because intelligent labor is better and cheaper for those who hire, than ignorant,—because I wish to see agriculture placed in its true position before the world, and dignified in the eyes of its own sons,—because I would banish forever the false notion that physical toil is incompatible with intellectual culture,—and because I would not have withdrawn from the Plow one ray of the glory that encircled it, when Cincinnatus quitted it to command the Roman armies, or our own Washington, to be the Saviour of his country."

Farmers' Daughters.

"In the remarks offered, I have made no reference to farmers' daughters. I would not, however, be supposed to cherish indifference to their intellectual improvement. Far from it. The advantages I demand for the son, I claim for the daughter. When, in the olden time, a prayer was offered, 'that our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth,' it was added, 'that our daughters may be as corner-stones, *polished* after the similitude of a palace.' In my plea for education, I can make no distinction in the sexes that God has not made. I believe the best education, and the full-

est development of their intellectual powers that circumstances will permit, is the right of both—of the sister as well as the brother. If knowledge is a blessing to the latter, it can be nothing less to the former. 'Females are not called upon to lead armies, to make and execute laws, or to preside over public safety.' But they may be called to equally important and responsible duties. 'They may be called upon to preside over the domestic circle—to regulate families by their wisdom, and to mould, guide and enlighten the youthful mind. In the proper performance of these duties, they will need all that clearness of reason, and solidity of judgment, to which a thorough and well conducted education may conduce. No law, human or divine, forbids that the female mind should seek to penetrate science,' or that she should be accomplished in any of the arts that constitute a polite education.

I maintain there is entire congruity between a cultivated intellect and polished manners, and the commonest duties of domestic life,—between, if you please, a knowledge of the Latin classics and making a cheese—of the piano and the spinning wheel—of embroidery and making a pudding—of algebra and darning a stocking. That woman is worthy of admiration, as she will always command it, who combines a thorough knowledge of the details of house-keeping with the charm of intellectual and personal accomplishments. It is these last that dignify labor, and impart to domestic life a true zest; and where we see them in this combination, we are prompted to apply the compliment paid by Dr. Johnson to Mrs. M'Kenzie: "She is the most accomplished lady I found in the Highlands; she knows French, music and drawing; sews neatly, makes shell-work, *and can milk cows.*"

EDUCATION OF FARMERS' DAUGHTERS.

In the families of many farmers there are too many unproductive hands. In the changes which, since the introduction of extensive manufactories of cotton and woollen among us, have taken place in our habits of domestic labor, some of the internal resources of the farmer have been dried up, and new occasions of expenditure introduced. I cannot better illustrate this matter than by a recurrence to a conversation which I had with one of the most respectable farmers in this country. "Sir," said he to me, "I am a widower, and have only one daughter at home. I have gone to the utmost extent of my limited means for her education. She is a good scholar, and has every where stood high in her classes, and acquitted herself to the satisfaction of her instructors. She is expert in all the common branches of education. She reads Latin and French; she understands mineralogy and botany; and I can show you with pleasure some of her fine needle-work, embroidery, and drawings. In the loss of her mother, she is my whole dependence; but instead of waiting upon me, I am obliged to hire a servant to wait upon her. I want her to take charge of my dairy, but she cannot think of milking; and as her mother was anxious that her child should be saved from all hardship—for she used to say the poor girl would have enough of that by and by—she never allowed her to share in her labor; and therefore she knows no more of the care of the dairy, or indeed of housekeeping, than any city miliner; so that in fact I have sold all my cows but one. This cow supplies us with what milk we want, but I buy my butter and cheese. I told her a few days since that my stockings were worn out, and that I had a good deal of wool she might spin. Her reply was in a tone of unaffected surprise, "Why father! no young lady does that; and besides, it is so much easier to send it to the mill and have it carded there." "Well," I continued, "you will knit the stockings, if I get the wool spun?" "Why, no, father! mother never taught me how to knit, because she said it would interfere with my lessons; and then if I knew how, it would take a great deal of time, and be much cheaper to buy the stockings at the store."

This incident illustrates perfectly the condition of many a farmer's family, and exhibits a serious drawback upon his property, and a great impediment to his success. The false notions which prevail among us in regard to labor, create a distaste for it; and the fact that, if the time required to be employed in many articles of household manufacture be reckoned at its ordinary value, the cost of making many articles of clothing would exceed that for which they could be purchased at the store, is deemed a sufficient reason for abandoning their production at home. In many cases, however, the time is turned to no account, but absolutely squandered. But the clothing, if not made, must be bought; and they who might produce it must be sustained at an equal expense, whether they work or are idle.—*Report of the American Central Board of Education.*

From the Maine Farmer.

NEWTOWN PIPPIN.

Downing, in his work on Fruits, thus describes the Newtown Pippin apple, which is prized by the English above all other American sorts. Mr Pell, of Westchester county, N. Y., has this year sold in New York city, 600 barrels of this apple, at $6 per bbl., for shipment to London:

"The Newtown Pippin stands at the head of all apples, and is, when in perfection, acknowledged to be unrivalled in all the qualities which constitute a high flavored dessert apple, combining the properties of long keeping without the least shriveling, and retaining its high flavor to the last. It is very largely raised in New York and New Jersey for exportation, and commands the highest price in Covent Garden Market, London.

This variety is a native of Newtown, Long Island. It requires a pretty strong, deep, warm soil, to attain its full perfection, and in the orchard it should be manured every two or three years. For this reason, while it is planted by acres in orchards in New York and the Middle States, it is rarely raised in large quantities or with much success in New England. On the Hudson, thousands of barrels of the fairest and richest Newtown Pippins are constantly produced.

The tree is of rather slender and slow growth, and even while young, is remarkable for its rough bark. Fruit, of medium size, roundish, a little irregular in its outline, caused by two or three obscure ribs on the sides, and broadest at the base, next the stalk; about three inches in diameter, and two and a half deep—skin, dull green, becoming olive green when ripe, with a faint, dull, brownish blush on one side, dotted with small grey specks, and with delicate russet rays around the stalk—calyx quite small and closely set in a narrow and shallow basin; stalk half an inch long, rather slender, deeply sunk in a wide, funnel-shaped cavity; flesh, greenish white, very juicy crisp, with a fine aroma, and an exceedingly high and delicious flavor. When the fruit is not grown on healthy trees, it is liable to be spotted with black spots. Is in eating from December to May—but in perfection in March.'.

Fattening Animals.—An essential point in fattening animals, is to keep them in a quiet and comfortable condition. We do not propose to engage at present in a consideration of the relative action of the different organs of the animal body. Every farmer has, however, more or less noticed the connection which the nervous system has with the digestive and secretive organs. An animal may consume a large amount of food, but if it is so situated that it is restless and discontented, the accumulation of fat will be only at a slow and unprofitable rate. We have seen hogs and cattle intended for slaughter, rendered so entirely uncomfortable from the coldness and filthiness of their situation, they scarcely throve at all, though they consumed and wasted much more food than they would have required if properly cared for. Hence the saying, that "an animal will fret off flesh faster than it can be gained."

Animals should not be confined to wet and muddy places—above all things they should not be obliged to take their food in such places. Cattle and sheep that are fed with grain and vegetables, should be provided with clean mangers. Fatting hogs should be fed in clean troughs, or on clean dry floors, and their sleeping places should be dry and sufficiently warm. They should not be expected to perform much labor in the compost yard; that service should be rendered while they are in working trim, and not after they are full fed and are becoming overloaded with fat. All exertion is attended with a waste of muscular tissue, and the more laborious the exertion, the greater is the expenditure. Hence the increase in weight will be most rapid by allowing the animal to remain as much at rest as is consistent with the preservation of its health.—*Alb. Cult.*

London Milk.—It was stated in evidence before a London Police Court, that more milk is drank in London in a fortnight than all the cows in England would give in a month, and that it is the practice of venders of London milk to add nine quarts of water to every six they receive from the dairy.

Husk Mattresses.—The scarcity and high price of palm-leaf waste, has led the manufacturers of mattresses to look for a substitue, and beds of an excellent quality are now manufactured in this town, by Messrs. J. & J. F. Woods, of corn husks. The husk is prepared and curled like hair, and becomes more permanent and elastic than palm-leaf. —*Barre Gaz.*

Red Ants.—A writer in the Albany Cultivator says: "I made a thick chalk mark, about an inch wide, around the article or vessel I wish protected from the ants, and found they will not attempt to pass over the chalk. I watched their motions for some time. They crawled as busily as ever up as far as the chalk, where they seemed very much excited, and not one of them attempted to pass over it. I have tried the above remedy for over a month without a single failure. I had previously tried all other remedies, but to no purpose."

[The following report made at the late Cattle Show at Northampton, embodies so many interesting remarks upon the interesting subjects of Sheep and Swine, that we have thought it worth copying. If it should fail to *instruct*, we think it cannot fail to *entertain*.]

REPORT ON SHEEP AND SWINE.

The committee on whom the important duty of inspecting Sheep and Swine has devolved, ask leave to report:

First, as to *Sheep*. The specimens of coarse wool sheep were more numerous than usual. Of fine wool, there were less.

The committee have awarded the premium of $3 to Samuel L. Parsons, of Northampton, for the best coarse wool buck; the premium of $3 to Paoli Lathrop, of S. Hadley, for the best coarse wool ewes, and the premium of $3 to Eben Smith and Dan. Pease, jr., of Middlefield, for the best fine wool bucks. There was no entry of fine wool ewes.

The committee have also awarded to Mark Haskell, of Amherst, a gratuitous premium of $1, for a coarse wool buck.

Your committee take pleasure in giving their testimony to the great usefulness of this class of animals. None are more valuable in promoting the comfort of man, and none more charitable in *covering* his defects.

The Sheep is a member of the Peace Society, and a non-resistant, always excepting the *ram*, when infuriated. Like his superior, man, when the sheep takes a *horn*, he becomes pugnacious.

It is needless for us at this time, to enumerate the best kinds of sheep for wool or for mutton. We make no comparison; we wish to excite the jealousy of no individual sheep. The generation has not yet passed away, that saw the bursting of the great Merino bubble, and the consequent losses of the rhino; and far be it from us to create another excitement and cause greater losses, by giving OUR important opinion in favor of any particular breed of sheep!

One of the valuable properties of sheep is their skin, which is used for the binding of books, and for other purposes. We abound in books whose contents are redolent of *mutton*, and full as *sheepish* as the binding.

The only *base* purpose to which the sheep contributes is the manufacture of drum-heads. The peaceable sheep of these parts, has, however, the satisfaction of knowing that his skin will be drummed to call together those soldiers only who have not the most remote idea of *war*, and who are in greater danger from what goes *in* at their *own*, than from what goes *out* of the *cannon's* mouth.

We have all heard of the hats called *Ram Beavers*. Your committee have made diligent research, to find out the material of which they are manufactured, but on inquiry at the hatter's, we find no such article, and infer that the "Ram Beaver," like the Unicorn, is a fabulous animal.

There is a custom of great antiquity among sheep, of forever following a *leader*. In this the sheep is only imitating a custom among party politicians; but, unlike some *party* leaders, we are not aware that the leaders of the *sheep* ever "*pull wool*" *over their followers' eyes*.

But we must leave the sheep and the politicians, and turn our attention to subjects of greater *weight* and *dignity*, the Swine.

The display of breeding Sows was unusually large, and the quality much better than usual. There is evidently more attention paid to the quality of the breeds, and more care taken of the swine themselves. The committee have awarded the premium of $3 to J. H. Holland, of Northampton, for the best breeding sow and pigs; the premium of $3 to Wm. A. Graves, of Northampton, for the second best do.; and the premium of $3 to Lewis Edwards, of Northampton, for the third best do.; and the first premium of $3 for a Boar, to J. L. Clark, of Northampton.

Your committee consider the raising of swine as a very important item in the economy of a farm, and so considering, deem it their duty to give some of the important leading points to be observed in swine raising, as well as some account of the race as a body.

Webster mentions two classes of hogs—viz: the Swine, or quadrupedial hog; and the Brutal Fellow, or bipedial hog. The first class is the one under our present consideration.

We submit the following, as the leading points to be observed by the swine breeder:

"First. Purity of breed, possessing aptitude to mature and fatten readily on food.

Second. Head small and short, chest deep and broad, ribs arched, neck short and thick, well set with bristles; limbs small and fine-boned, bristles soft, resembling hair; ears in general erect and small; legs short, and quarters full; skin soft and elastic.

Third. Carcass round, full and compact, possessing lateral extension and proportional length."

Swine have long been the objects of abuse, for their uncouth manners and gluttonous habits, without the power of defending themselves. Much of the want of good manners in swine, must be ascribed to the neglect of their early education; and their unclean habits are obviously caused by the want of proper attention in youth to their daily ablutions. However well disposed the mother of a family of swine may be, it is entirely out of her power to give every individual of so large a family the proper attention and training.

The hog is the personification of independence. He acknowledges no law—save that of his stomach. From the Merrimack to the Mississippi, he possesses an independent, transcendental individuality or oneness. Everywhere and always he is A HOG, "and nothin' else."

The manufacture of lard oil has added new value to swine, and caused them to be regarded in a *new light*. Now, in some of our cities, the swine pass through the streets at night lighted by oil extracted from the bodies of their deceased relatives and personal friends, "gone to *pot*." This must indeed be a *trying* reflection.

The filthy habits of swine would long ago have banished them from the domestic circle, were it not that they furnished the most various and luxurious food of any animals. From Adam's first *spare rib* to the present time, pork has been considered a great luxury. Sausages, in all ages, have *linked* the appetites of men to swine.

Although *litter*-ally at home with the *pen*, learned pigs have generally been humbugs, and like learned humbugs generally, their loss of common sense was exactly equal to their gain of book knowledge.

The hog is a teetotaller. He is never *corned* till after death, when of course he is not responsible.

His want of social feeling has prevented his joining the Odd Fellows, and his aversion to the gridiron has kept him out of the fraternity of Freemasons; and although he pokes his nose into almost everything, he has not yet discovered the secrets of either. He has, however, been a member of all the political parties of the day. Of the religious sects, he sides with the "Come-out-ers."

The Western States seem at present to exceed the rest of the world in the quantities of swine raised and slaughtered. Acorns are there an important article of food, and *great hogs from little acorns grow*.

In conclusion, your committee solicit the sympathies of men for the degraded condition of this race. And they hope yet to see the happy day when all miscalled reformers will be employed in *raising* swine.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT CLARKE, *Chm'n*.

THE CRY FOR BREAD!

The condition of the poorer classes in Great Britain, and especially in Ireland, is truly appalling. When it was found that the grain crop had fallen short nearly one-half of the average throughout the British isles, it was supposed that the full extent of the calamity had been reached. But now that is superadded the almost total failure of the potato crop, on which so large a portion of the poor almost wholly subsist, there are no words that can picture the despondency and gloom which overhang the prospects of the poor for the coming winter.

The only plan for relief yet spoken of by the British press, is the immediate and total repeal of the corn laws—the admission of American produce free of duty. It is not impossible but this may be effected, notwithstanding the unwillingness of British politicians to break in upon the established order of things. Indeed, in watching the course of public opinion in Great Britain, we long since became convinced, that the abrogation of the corn laws was only a *deferred* measure; and we have almost positive proof of it in the following extract of a letter from Lord Ashley to his constituents in Dorsetshire:

"I will seize this occasion to touch the subject of the Corn Laws, and the result of the present movement against them. *It appears to me that their destiny is fixed;* and that the leading men of the great parties in Parliament, are by no means disinclined to *their eventual abolition.* The debates of last session have left no doubt on this head: both the candidates *for* power, and the occupants *of* it, approximated so much more closely than at any former period, that most of the hearers were induced to believe that their difference was less a matter of principle than a question of time."

But this corn law repeal is a difficult question. Take away the protection which the agricultural interest of Great Britain receives, and that interest will instantly demand a repeal of all protection to to the various manufacturing interests; in other words, a repeal of the tariff altogether. The next question is, how is the British government, which requires an expenditure of more than $250,000,000 per annum, to be supported? Direct taxation to that amount would revolutionize the country in one year; and the income tax is already complained of as oppressive and unjust. The truth is, Great Britain can enjoy prosperity very well, but she is in no condition to withstand adversity. One year of scarcity may unsettle the whole fabric of her policy, and present her before the world like a giant shorn of his strength, not by foreign foe, but by the Delilahs of his own household.—*Bost. Mail.*

The coming winter promises to be memorable in the annals of human suffering. In addition to

the *usual* amount of distress felt by the poor of Europe, Great Britain and Ireland, the pangs of hunger are to be added. The deficiency in the crops is general, and a rise in prices will of course follow. In the most auspicious seasons, the wages of the poor in foreign countries are barely sufficient to enable them to supply themselves with the coarsest kind of food, and, as wages will not be advanced, they will be compelled to live as near the starving point as possible. The last arrival from England brought confirmation of the general deficiency of the grain crops in that country, and of the failure of the potato crop in Ireland.

While the producers of our own country are rejoicing at the increase in the prices of agricultural products, it is well to remember the cause. Every dollar which the speculator in bread-stuffs puts into his pocket, will be wrung from suffering humanity abroad. It is shocking to think of the condition of the Irish poor under a failure of the potato crop. It is estimated that there are in Ireland four millions of paupers, and millions of others whose condition is not far removed from beggary. Poverty, destitution of the most loathsome character, is their general lot, and now famine is staring them in the face. All the diseases which are engendered by scantiness and unwholesomness of food, will prey on these wretched millions. No imagination can picture the distress which now hangs, like a frightful curse, over that ill-fated country. There never was a time when the cry of philanthropy addressed itself more forcibly to those who enjoy the blessings of plenty. We earnestly hope that the appeal, whenever it is made and wherever it is made, will not be disregarded.—*Louisville Jour.*

PASTURE FOR SWINE.

The other day, while passing the farm of a neighbor, we found him busily engaged in removing some small trees from an enclosure of about an acre. On inquiry, we found that he intended to test the efficacy of *hog labor* in eradicating that pest of all old and rich soils—couch, or witch grass, *(Triticum repens)*—and that with a view to this experiment, he was removing the trees. He had, he said, cultivated the field for some years, but the grass had made steady annual progress, and at last its luxuriance had become so great that he found it utterly impossible to derive any profit from it under the hoe. He had seen it stated in the papers that swine were fatal to witch grass, and notwithstanding there were, as before stated, several fine and healthy young trees on the piece, he determined to transplant them, and give the experiment a fair trial. Hogs are probably the best operatives that can be employed in this business, as they not only destroy the grass, but contribute essentially to the richness of the soil on which they operate. The long, fibrous roots of the *Triticum repens* are peculiarly sweet and succulent, and while one remains in the soil, the hogs will keep at work in quest of it.

On the subject of providing pastures for swine, the following from the Albany Cultivator, is deserving of attention:—

"A lot of land well seeded down to clover, is wanted by good cultivators for pasturing swine. The quantity of land to be proportioned to the number of swine that may keep the grass from going to seed. This prevents waste, and the shorter the grass is, the sweeter it will be. The pig pasture should have a good supply of water, and running water is to be preferred to still water, but the latter is better than none. Hogs should not be permitted to run in summer pasture till about the first of May; and they should be ringed, or the gristle of their noses should be shaved off before they are allowed that liberty."—*Maine Cult.*

Productive Farm.—The farm of James Gowan, Esq., near Philadelphia, consisting of 100 acres, exclusive of woodland, maintains from 40 to 50 head of cows, the necessary number of horses, a large stock of swine for breeding and fattening; and produces for market hundreds of bushels of rye, some wheat, and on an average 400 bushels of potatoes, and 3 to 400 bushels of carrots, beside providing for the family. Mr G.'s products per acre, are, commonly, 100 bushels of corn, 400 of potatoes, 50 of wheat, [we suspect there was some *guessing* in stating these quantities as common yields,] 1000 of sugar beet, nearly 700 of carrots, more than 800 of ruta bagas. High manuring, thorough cultivation, the soiling system—in short, the thorough adoption of all the improved modes of farming, are the secret of this success. By these means, he makes four or five acres do the work of thirty.—*Selected.*

Deterioration of Fruit Trees.—Mr S. B. Parsons, of the Commercial Garden and Nursery, Flushing, Long Island, says:

"We know of but two varieties of fruit that have at all deteriorated—the Virgouleuse and St. Germain Pears. This deterioration is, we are satisfied, caused by an insect which attacks the tree in certain localities, but whose ravages are prevented by high cultivation and thinning of fruit, for it is well known that many insects will rarely attack thrifty shoots and fruit, and during a season of rapid vegetation and poor fruit crops, many of our Virgouleuse pears were fine and sound. The appearance of decline was noticed some years since among our Newtown Pippins. We immediately cultivated and manured the orchard very highly, and the year after were rewarded with perfectly sound apples, of unusual size and fine flavor."

Chinese Horticulture.—Fletcher Webster, Esq., in a late lecture in New York, stated the following remarkable fact. Mr W. having resided in China, is, of course, good authority:

"The Chinese have the art of dwarfing trees, and will raise a pear or apple tree, perfect in all its parts, and yet not exceeding *a foot in height.* And what is still more strange, they will produce from these dwarfs at pleasure, fruit either of the usual size, or of a size proportioned to the diminished growth of the tree."

Dissipated Hogs.—A Cincinnati writer thus describes the doings of certain hogs, kept in the immediate vicinity of whiskey distilleries:

"The slops with which these hogs are fed, have a strong dash of alcohol in them; and you can hear the porkers squeal at the distance of a mile when they get to quarrelling and 'spreeing' towards night, after having 'liquored up' pretty freely. Look into the pens upon them, and you will see at once they are a lot of topers—dirty, bloated, red-eyed, ears and noses bloody and slit to pieces in their drunken fights. They were once, doubtless, decent hogs, but whiskey has blunted their moral sensibilities, and they are indeed 'a caution' to all imbibers of *toddy*, whether hogs or humans."

Manufacture of Bone Buttons.—We had an opportunity the other day of looking into the Button Mill of Messrs. Kelly & Spring, at Brighton, and of examining the process by which they manufacture a very superior kind of bone button—much superior, we are told, to those which are imported from England. They manufacture some dozen different sizes—the aggregate quantity being about 5000 gross a year. Their buttons, we believe, have a high reputation in the market, and in respect to polish, particularly, they certainly bear a very favorable comparison with any we have ever seen, whether of foreign or domestic manufacture.

The raw material for the manufacture of these buttons, is furnished by the numerous and extensive butcheries in Brighton. The leg bones of cattle are those which are used in the manufacture; and about 250,000 of these bones are annually converted into buttons at this establishment. After being boiled out, they are transferred to the button mill, where they are first sawed into convenient lengths, and then softened by steam; after which they are sawed lengthwise into slabs of the desired thickness. From these slabs the buttons are cut by drills, running by steam, one side being cut first, and afterwards the other. Next, the four holes of the button are made, which is done by an operation of four distinct drills. Then follow the different processes of smoothing, bleaching, coloring, and packing. Girls are employed in several of the departments.

In this manufacture there is no waste of material. Such parts of the bones as are not actually converted into buttons, are used for manure. A striking instance of the efficacy of such manure was pointed out to us in a turnip field near by. Even the bone dust which falls from the saws and lathes, is carefully preserved, and sold to farmers as a luxurious article of fodder for their cattle.—*Boston Traveller.*

The editor of the Maine Farmer says he is willing that the farmer's daughter, if she have the *means* to do it, should play upon the piano or the guitar—that she should read poetry, and make herself as polished and as refined as the graces themselves; but begs her to remember that this is but the mere sparkling of the diamond—while the *substance*, the real worth of the gem, is in the solid matter of domestic knowledge; and that no young lady's education is finished, however accomplished she may be, until she can *darn a stocking, milk a cow, and make a cheese.*

The situation of the farmer is that in which the Almighty placed his people in their days of comparative innocence, and to that situation many of His laws refer; and when, in the fullness of time, the Messiah came, it was to the shepherds that his advent was announced by a chorus of angels. It was chosen by the Almighty for His people under the old dispensation, and the farmers were the earliest recipients of His favor under the new. Agriculture conduces to health and competence; and in giving these, it gives all this life can bestow, and if rightly improved, they will open to him a glorious future.—*Quincy's Address.*

The Yarmouth Register states that of fifteen individuals in that vicinity addressed upon the subject of the potato rot, the answers received seem to establish the fact "that potatoes manured by seaweed alone are not injured by the rot."

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1845.

CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS.

We had something to say, recently, in behalf of the tenants of the *barn*. We now propose to say something in behalf of the more important tenants of the *dwelling*—the young members of the household.

Nothing, this side the grave, excepting an unblemished reputation, is of greater concern to *them*, than the *acquisition of knowledge*. For this purpose, free schools are provided at the public expense—and if parents and those who have the charge of youth, are faithful in the discharge of the responsibility that rests upon them, they will see that the young of their care are permitted to improve every opportunity, and provided with every possible facility, for partaking of the advantages of education proffered by the public liberality.

The progress which children make in their studies at school, depends, generally in a considerable degree, upon these two circumstances—First, whether they are furnished with the requisite books—and, second, whether their attendance is regular. Without these means of advancement, they can, at best, make but little headway; and seeing themselves distanced by others who have no better *will*, but have better *means*, of getting ahead, operates to excite discouragement rather than emulation in their breasts—and they manifest too plainly to admit of mistake, that they are engaged in "the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties." The poet says,

"Slow rises worth by poverty depressed."

So with the ambitious scholar, depressed by want of suitable books and the opportunity of regularly attending school.

Let these facilities for progress, then, be always granted whenever they may be, and as fully as they may be. Let no labor be exacted of the child at home that will interfere with the pursuit of his studies. Encourage him by every means to learn, and inspire in him an ambition to excel his schoolmates in learning. If he is not *naturally* ambitious, then encourage him by promise of reward, to learn, and in every way stimulate and aid him to become *interested* in learning. Portray to him the advantages of knowledge, and the evils of ignorance. Teach him to feel that *no* study is too difficult for him to master, if he will but *resolve* to master it:—and if you succeed in convincing him of this, you may then say to him as the Pythian priestess said to Alexander, "*My son, thou art invincible.*"

BUTTER MAKING.

Mr Breck—Dear Sir—I observed an article in a late number of your valuable paper, describing the system of managing milk in Devonshire, England, viz; "whether intended for the churn or otherwise, it is scalded immediately as it is strained from the cow: after this operation, it does not sour so soon, even in summer; and if it is intended for butter making, you have sweet milk for family use, after the cream is taken off. In winter, such cream will not require more than 15 minutes' churning to bring it into butter."

I have no doubt, sir, but the above system of management will produce all the results there stated. It will also cause the cream to rise more rapidly and in greater quantity. Even warming the pans into which the milk is put, will produce the latter effect, but in a less degree. But, sir, is it equally true that such a system of managing milk would produce good butter? Will it not be paler and softer, and from the greater quantity of caseine or curd which will be produced by such a system, will it not be more liable to become rancid, if kept for a length of time, than if the milk had not been scalded?

It is certainly very important to know the different modes of managing the dairy in different countries, and in different parts of the same country; for, in my opinion there is no art in agriculture so shrouded in darkness as that of butter making—if the butter generally found in the markets is a proper criterion to judge by.

But there are so many circumstances which affect the quality of butter, that it would not always be advisable to adopt the exact practice of another country, or of another district of your own country, nor even that pursued on another farm in your neighborhood. In different seasons, also, the same farm will produce a different quality of butter. The constitution of the cow—the condition she is in—the kind of treatment she receives—the breed she is of—the kinds of pasture and other food she eats—the length of time she is from calving—whether she is milked twice or three times a day—and whether the hands of the milker are clean and free from all taint,—all these things affect the quality of butter. The quality of butter is also affected by the state of the milk at the time the cream is taken off, i. e. whether it is sweet or sour: also, by the degree of sourness of the cream or milk at the time of churning. It is also affected by the regularity of the stroke in churning; for if the stroke be quick and irregular, the butter will be paler and softer, and not so rich as if the churning had been done more slowly and regularly. Churning after the butter is separated from the milk or cream, though it may add a little to the weight, has a bad effect on the color and texture of butter.

Much also depends on the temperature of the milk or cream at the commencement and during the whole process of churning; much upon whether the buttermilk is properly expressed, and the kind and quantity of salt used, and whether it is properly mixed with the butter; that is, thoroughly and equally. Much also depends on the degree of sweetness in which the dairy utensils are kept. I do not mean *cleanliness alone*, for they can be clean without being sweet, although they cannot be sweet without being clean. The state of the atmosphere, and the purity or impurity of the air with which the milk and cream come in contact, also affect the quality of butter. The quality is also affected by the portion of milk or cream from which it is extracted—whether from the *last* portion of milk drawn from the cow, and whether from cream that has risen in the first six, eight or ten hours, or from that of a longer period.

The above is the substance of several of the most important circumstances that affect the quality of butter. To go into detail, would extend this to too great a length. I shall therefore only farther add, that all these and some other things, have to be taken into consideration by the successful dairywoman, so that much more depends upon her ability to form a correct judgment of the method best adapted for her own dairy, than upon her adopting strictly the system of any other person or place.

Much has been said and written against touching butter with the hand while preparing it for use, as the heat of the hand injures the butter, &c. Now, sir, I do not pretend to be sage enough to enter into the philosophy of this controverted point; but I will state what I know, viz: I know that it is the general practice in Ayrshire, (a county in Scotland much famed for the good quality of its butter and cheese,) to clap the butter with the hand in order to express the buttermilk, and to mix the salt thoroughly through it with the hand; to take it out of the churn with the hand, and to pack it into pots or firkins with the hand. And notwithstanding this handling, I doubt not that the butter generally made in Ayrshire would find a ready sale in Boston market. I also know that the best butter I have eaten in this country, was made after the Ayrshire manner, and in the months of June and July of the present year; and the whole process, from taking it out of the churn until it was packed into the pots, for winter use, was done with the bare hand.

I have seen different plans of working butter, beside the hand, such as wooden clappers, wooden pressers, of different shapes and powers, and also cloths for absorbing the buttermilk; yet I consider the bare hand to be superior to the whole, especially if the butter is to be kept for winter use; because the use of the hand is the most certain way of getting out all of the buttermilk.

Many people who disapprove of working butter with the hands, are in favor of washing it with water; but in my opinion it will be more injured by the latter than by the former treatment.

There can be no doubt but the hand is naturally warmer than either wood or cloth, and when it becomes too warm the butter will adhere to it: but there is a preventive of this warmth; viz. to plunge the hands in warm water before you begin to clap the butter, and while the operation is going on, have some cold water at hand to dip the hands into, and if they still become too warm, then wash them again with warm water, and repeat the washing and cooling as often as required. But my remarks have extended to a greater length than I intended at the outset, and I shall now conclude by subscribing myself

Yours, very respectfully,
ALEX'R BICKETT.

Lowell, Nov. 29, 1845.

☞ We should be pleased to hear often from the intelligent writer of the foregoing, as we know he possesses not a little of that valuable wisdom which accrues from extensive and varied experience and observation. He is the gentleman who was employed by the State Agricultural Society, to select the fine animals recently imported by them,—and which selection evinced that the confidence reposed in his judgment was not at all misplaced.—Ed.

William Hill, of North Berwick, York County, Me., slaughtered two hogs the last week, 19 months old, weighing 656 and 625 pounds; total, 1281. Averaging 640 1-2.

Getting Fuel.—It is well to obtain the year's stock of fuel as early in the winter as possible, and before the fall of deep snows renders the traversing of woodlands more difficult. It is also now a good time to clear wood off from swamps.

Winter Ditching.—The Rev. Mr Eliot, in his Field Husbandry, wisely recommended, when bushy, swampy land, full of strong roots, is to be ditched, that the ditch be begun in he winter, when the ground is frozen two or three inches deep. The surface may be chopped into pieces by a broad axe, with a long helve, and the ditch completed in warm weather. In December, while the ground is free from snow, is a good time for this operation.

Mrs Sedgwick beautifully remarks that "Children are like mile-stones, set along the road, reminding us of the distance we have gone on the journey of life." An editor observes that some families place their mile-stones only about a rod apart.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietor of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Dec. 7.

Dec. 1845.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	1	36	40	50	N. E
Tuesday,	2	24	26	28	N. W.
Wednesday,	3	10	16	17	N. E.
Thursday,	4	20	39	31	E.
Friday,	5	31	30	26	E.
Saturday,	6	19	25	21	N. W.
Sunday,	7	4	18	18	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Dec. 8, 1845.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 575 Beef Cattle, 150 Stores, 4800 Sheep and 500 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—We advance our quotations on the best qualities, viz: Extra $5,25. First quality $4,75 a $5,00. Second quality $4,25 a $4,50. Third quality $3,50 a $4,25.

Barrelling Cattle.—Mess $3,25. No. 1 $2,75.

Stores—Yearlings $5 a 7; two years old $8 a 15; three years old $15 a 24.

Sheep.—Dull. Sales from $1 to $2 25.

Swine.—Lots to peddle 3 1-2 and 4 1-2. At retail 3 1-2 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 a 2 25 per bushel. Red Top 50 to 60 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 9 a 10c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed. $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. Sales of Grain during the past week have been confined chiefly to the retail trade and stored lots, the arrivals having been very limited.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 87 a 90—Southern, round yellow, 86 a 88—Southern flat yellow, 83 a 86—do. do. white 79 a 80—do New Orleans, 77 a 82—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 00 a 95—do. Southern, 00 a 00—Oats Southern, 48 a 50— Northern do. 52 to 53—Beans, per bushel 1 75 a 2 00.—Shorts, per double bush. 50 a 55—Bran, 00 a 40.

FLOUR. The quotations per last steamer stand about the same as those of two weeks previous.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $6 50 a 0 60—do. wharf, $0 00 a 6 37—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low f'd new $6 37 a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf, 6 37 a 0 00—Georgetown, $6 50 a 6 75—Extra do. 7 25 a 0 00—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do. City, $7 25 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00 - do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $6 75 a 0 00— do fancy brands, $7 00 a 0 00—Ohio via Canal, $6 25 a 6 62—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $0 00 a 5 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $4 00 a 4 25.

PROVISIONS. The market continues firm for most articles under this head Lard is less active.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $9 25 a 9 50—Navy—$8 00 a 8 50.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $5 50 a 0 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $15 00 a 15 50—do Clear $14 50 a 15 00 do. Mess, $13 50 a 14 00—do Prime $10 75 a 11 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, ship'ng, 12½ a 14—do store, uninspected, 13 a 15—do dairy, 15 cts. a 18—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 8¼ a 9—do South and Western, 0 a 0— Hams, Boston, 8 a 9—Southern and Western, 8 a 9—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 5½ a 8—do new milk, 7½ a 0.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. adval. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

The demand for this article has been moderate through the week, and prices remain unchanged

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 40 a 45 c.—American full blood, do 37 a 40—Do. 3-4 do 34 a 35—Do. 1-2 do 32 a 33 -1-4 and common do 29 a 31 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15—Bengasi do 6 a 12—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 33 a 38—No. 1 do. do. do. 30 a 32—No. 2 do do do 23 a 25—No. 3 do do do 14 a 17.

But little has been doing this week. The stock is small and in few hands. The accounts by steamer are more favorable for a good crop in England.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 25 a 26 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 20 to 21 per ton—Eastern Screwed $17 to 18.

EGGS, 15 to 18.

FARM FOR SALE.

A Farm in Medfield, formerly owned and improved by Capt. William Peters. Said Farm is pleasantly situated near the centre of the village, upon the main road to Hartford, and is passed by several daily stages. It consists of about 65 acres of excellent Land, under good cultivation, is well watered and fenced, and of remarkable easy tillage. The house is large and most thoroughly built, and the barns and other out buildings are convenient and in good repair. There are many Fruit Trees of the best kinds, most of which are grafted and in full bearing.

Also, a two story Dwelling House, in good repair, with an excellent garden and fruit trees nearly opposite the above, and a large Pasture and an Orchard within a short distance.

The whole or part of the above estate will be sold on reasonable terms.

For further information apply to the editor of this paper, to Elias Phinney, Esq., Lexington, or to the subscriber on the premises. CHARLES C. SEWALL.

Medfield, Sept. 23, 1845.

Guano! Guano!

Just received and for sale in lots to suit purchasers, 20 tons African and South American Guano, of superior quality, the best ever brought into this market. The African, which is part of the cargo of the brig Samos was analyzed by one of the first chemists of this country, and pronounced to be of the first quality; it has been fairly tested by many of the farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Boston, and has fully equalled their highest expectations. We can fully recommend the South American, which has also been carefully analyzed, and found to be a splendid article, and very superior, being free from stones and hard substances. For sale by the ton, bbl. or bag. Orders addressed to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market street, will be promptly attended to.

Boston, March 25, 1845.

ESSAY ON GUANO.

For sale at Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Teschemacher's Essay on Guano,—describing its properties and the best methods of its application in Agriculture and Horticulture, with the value of importations from different localities; founded on actual analyses, and on personal experiments upon numerous kinds of trees, vegetables, flowers, &c. Price 25 cents. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Nov. 4.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentle men or ladies' use For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO. 51 and 52 North Market Street.

HERDS GRASS OF EXTRA QUALITY.

The subscribers have received a few tierces of extra fine *HERDS GRASS SEED*, perfectly free from all foul seed, which they can confidently recommend to farmers for August sowing. Also, their usual supply of good *GRASS SEED*, of all kinds. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nos. 51 & 52, North Market street, up stairs.

WANTED,

A situation as *Gardener*, by a man who thoroughly understands his business: would have no objections to conduct a small Farm, if required. Inquire at this office.

Sept. 10. tf.

GEDDES'S HARROW.

This excellent implement, considered a great improvement on all other kinds, is for sale at the N. England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street, by

May 21. J. BRECK & CO.

BOUSSINGAULT'S RURAL ECONOMY.

Boussingault's Rural Economy; Price $1,75. Downing's Book of Fruits; price $1,75. Stable Keeper's Companion; price $1,00. Also, a general assortment of *AGRICULTURAL WORKS.*

Boston, Sept, 10, 1845 JOS. BRECK & CO.

WANTED,

A situation by a Gardener, who has good recommendations. Gentlemen about making improvements in their grounds will do well by employing him. Apply at this Office. Nov. 4.

2000 SUPERB TULIP BULBS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale the celebrated and costly bed of *TULIPS* imported for the Public Garden, and pronounced by competent judges to be the finest collection in this country. The subscribers obtained the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's premium of $8 for the best thirty distinct varieties which were taken from this bed. They will be sold at the very low price of $3 per dozen, which is not one half the cost of many single bulbs in the collection. There never was a better opportunity for amateurs to indulge themselves with a bed of these truly splendid flowers. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 11. Nos. 51 & 52 North Market St.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

In testing the quality of Plows, the power by which it is moved, the ease with which it is handled, and the manner in which it completes the work, are three important points, all of which are wisely, accurately and judiciously preserved in these improved Plows.

The character of these Plows for ease of draft and management, and the excellence of their work, though well established in the minds of the farming community, were most fully and satisfactorily exhibited to the public at the grand trial of Plows by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Worcester, October 9th, 1844, whose able and impartial committee awarded the highest premium of $50 to B. Martin, for the best Plow, for doing the best work with the least draft, in a trial open to the whole Union—this Plow running in its natural course, and keeping its true position, without any effort of the plowman, and turning a furrow 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a much less draft than any other Plow on the ground.

These Plows, as improved, are considered to be nearest to perfection of any implements of the kind in this country, as well in respect to material and workmanship, as in form of construction.

At the late Cattle-Show and Plowing-Match of the Worcester County Agricultural Society, in the heart of that most valuable agricultural county, B. Martin's Plow received the highest and most enthusiastic commendation from intelligent and experienced practical farmers, who know and are the most competent judges.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain. Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker, he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 24.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it togood advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

FARMERS' ALMANACK FOR 1846.

For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office, Thomas's Almanac for 1846, by the hundred or dozen.

Boston, Nov. 4.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Regalia of the British Crown.—The regalia deposited in a room recently appropriated to that purpose, presents a magnificent spectacle. Here is the ancient Imperial Crown of Charles II.; Prince of Wales' Crown; the ancient Queen's Crown; but the most magnificent display of England's regalia is the Crown of her present Majesty. The cap is of purple velvet, with silver hoops covered with diamonds; on the top of these hoops is a ball covered with smaller diamonds, with a cross of brilliants, containing a remarkable central sapphire. On the front is a heart-shaped ruby, said to have been worn by Edward the Black Prince. This diamond weighs 1 1-4 pounds, and is valued at one million of pounds sterling. The Baptismal Font, with stand, of silver gilt, which was used at the baptism of her present Majesty and the Prince of Wales, is four feet high, and cost £40,000. A large silver Wine Fountain is also exhibited, weighing 66 lbs. and which cost $50,000. There are various other costly paraphernalia belonging to the Regalia, such as St. Edward's Staff, of pure gold, 4 feet 7 inches in length; the Royal Sceptre, of gold, 2 feet 9 inches long; the Rod of Equity, of gold, 3 feet 7 inches long; the Queen's Ivory Sceptre, mounted in gold, with a dove of white onyx; the Orb, 5 inches in diameter, edged with pearls, and surmounted with roses of diamonds. The sovereign holds this Orb in the left hand, at the Coronation; the Swords of Justice, temporal and ecclesiastical, and numerous other articles. The value of the whole regalia is estimated at £3,000,000, equal to $14,520,000!

The Nashua Telegraph tells the following dog story:

A Smart Dog.—A man down east had been exceedingly annoyed by wolves, which destroyed his sheep. In the course of time, a dog-fancier offered to sell him a dog—and a very notable dog he was too. There was not a dog virtue in the whole catalogue, for which he was not distinguished—but if there was any one thing in which he particularly excelled, it was his prowess as a wolf-hunter. This was touching our friend on the right spot. The bargain was closed, and he only waited an opportunity to test his merits. At length there came a light snow, just the thing for wolf-hunting, and he took his dog and gun and sallied out. He soon crossed the track of a varmint—the dog took the scent and bounded off in pursuit. On followed our friend, up hill and down dale, "through brush and through brier," for two mortal hours, when he came across a Yankee of the *live* species, chopping wood, and the following satisfactory dialogue took place:

"Did you see a wolf and a dog pass by here?"

"Well, I reckon I did."

"How long ago?"

"Well, I guess about half an hour."

"How was it with 'em?"

"Well, they were pretty well up—but the dog had the advantage, for he was *a leetle ahead!*"

Little Failings.—"My James is a very good boy," said an old lady, "but he has little failings, for we are none of us perfect. He put a cat into the fire, flung his grandfather's wig down the well, set the barn on fire, and tried to stick a fork in his sister's eye; but these are only childish follies: he 'll soon outgrow 'em."

The following, from the Sandwich (Mass.) Observer, was penned on one of the blank leaves of a hymn-book, in a church not a thousand miles from that place. The writer was evidently out of humor, either with himself or somebody:

"Could old king David but for once,
To worship here repair,
And hear his Psalms thus warbled out,
Thinks I, he 'd almost swear!

But could St. Paul but just pop in,
From higher scenes abstracted,
And hear his gospel here explained,
I'm sure he 'd run distracted!"

A letter sent by an English gentleman to a prominent London physician, is as follows:

"Cer, Yole oblige me if yole cum un ce me I hev a Bad Kowld, am Hil in my Bow Hils, and hev lost my Happy tight."

A gentleman asked one of his farmers what was his age. "I am not certain," he replied: "I am either 58 or 68." "What! not know your own age?" "No, sir," replied the farmer; "I count my money and my cattle; but of my years I keep no reckoning, because I know I shall lose none of them, and that nobody will rob me of them."

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.
2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.
3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.
4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

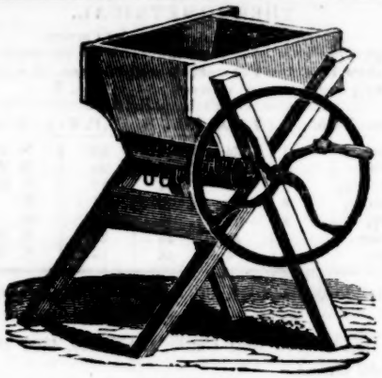
At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



WILLIS'S
Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil Plow is unquestionably the most important agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor and fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth"

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co. No. 51 North Market street.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars*, at any *one time*, may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town*, and take his *receipt* for it, as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt*, enclosed in a letter, *to us*. We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS
21 SCHOOL STREET.